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Message Text

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44
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-03 ISO-00 SSO-00 /004 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3138
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UNCLAS LUANDA 1115

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CPAS AO
SUBJECT: WELFARE AND REPATRIATION OF CHRISTOPHER MOHLMANN

REF: LUANDA 1104

1. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE MEDICAL REPORT ON CHRISTOPHER MOHLMANN, A 25 YR OLD AMCIT WHO SUFFERED A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN IN ANGOLA ON DEC 10.

HE WAS BROUGHT TO THE CLINICA REPOUSE DE MIRAMAR ON DEC 12, VIA AMBULANCE FROM LOBITO. HE IS A DIVER BY TRADE AND A FEW DAYS PREVIOUSLY HAD SURFACED FROM A DEPTH OF 50 METERS WITHOUT DE-COMPRESSION BECAUSE HE WAS LOW ON AIR. HE WAS "GROSSLY DISORIENTED IN TIME AND SPACE, NOT IN A MANIC STATE, NOT DEPRESSED, NO SCHEZOPHRENIC SYMPTOMS, AND NOT AGGRESSIVE". A NEUROLOGIST DIAGNOSED PORTINE EMBOLISM (MILLARD-GUKLER SYNDROME). BLOOD ANALYSIS SHOWED AN ABNORMALLY HIGH LEVEL OF SERUM GLUTAMIC-OXALOAUTIC TRANSAMINASS (200 U), SHOWING A POSSIBLE LUNG INFARCTUS. AN EEG WAS PERFORMED SHOWING A "COMPLETE DISORGAN-IZATION OF THE CEREBERAL WAVES WITH A PREDOMINANCE ON THE FRONTAL LOBES." AN INTERNIST THEN EXAMINED HIM BUT FOUND NO CLINICAL SIGNS OF A LUNG LESION. DOCTORS AGREED THAT IF HE HAD EXPERIENCED A DECOMPRESSION ACCIDENT IT WAS NOW TOO LATE TO RECOMPRESS HIM. HIS "PSYCHIATRIC CONDITION IS WORSENING FROM DAY TO DAY, TO THE POINT WHERE HE MUST BE KEPT UNDER PERMANENT HEAVY NEUROLEPTIC SEDATION WITH PHENOTIAZINES, DRAZEPAM AND BUTIROPHENONES". HE IS IN A STATE OF "GROSS DISORIENTATION", MANIAC, AND SHOWS COMPLETE EROTIC DESINHIBITION". BESIDES THE
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POSSIBILITIES OF PONTINE EMBOLISM AND LUNG EMBOLISM, THE PSYCH-

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IATRICTS OPINION IS THAT "HE HAS CLINICAL SIGNS OF GROSS ORGANIC
LESION TO THE FRONTAL LOBES OF THE BRAIN", WITH A POSSIBILITY OF
"IT ALL BEING AN ATYPICAL-MANIA". SINCE PHARMACOLOGICAL THERAPY
ISN'T HELPING THE NEXT STEP IS ELECTROSHOCK THERAPY; HOWEVER,
THE POSSIBLE DIAGNOSIS OF EMBOLISM FORBIDES SUCH A MEASURE
"BECAUSE OF INPENDING FATAL CEREBRAL HEMORRAGE". FINAL DIAGNOSIS
IS "GENERALISED ORGANIC BRAIN LESION WITH A PREDOMINANCE ON
THE FRONTAL LOBES, THE PROBABLE ETHYOLOGY BEING DUE TO GASEOUS
EMBOLISM. PUTTING IT SHORTLY THE PATIENT EITHER DIES OR
BECOMES PERMANENTLY DEMENTED."

2. HE IS CONFINED IN THE CLINICA REPOUSO DE MIRAMAR, 12 RUA
ENG. ARMINDO ANDRADE IN LUANDA. TELEPHONE: 40340.

3. PHYSICIAN: DR VIRGILIO KASPRZYKOWSKI

TELEPHONE: 35993

4. THE PHYSICIAN FEELS MOHLMANN CAN TRAVEL NOW AND WILL NEED A
PHYSICIAN AND NURSE IN ATTENDANCE. HE MUST GO AS A LITTER
PATIENT. TRAVEL BY TAP WILL COST $2800 ROUND TRIP FOR THE DOCTOR
AND NURSE AND, ASSUMING 3 TOURIST SEATS FOR THE LITTER, $2100
FOR THE PATIENT. IF VARIG IS USED, 4 FIRST CLASS SEATS ARE RE-
QUIRED AND THE COST WILL BE 8600. THE DOCTOR IS ASKING FOR A
US$3000 FEE, WHICH INCLUDES 40 CENTS PER KILOMETER BY AIR ROUTE
AND $140 PER DAY SALARY. NURSES FEE WILL BE LESS. IF REPATRIATION IS
APPROVED WE WILL ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE A LOWER COST WITH THE DOCTOR.
DUE TO THE SMALL MEDICAL COMMUNITY HERE THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF
ARRANGING FOR ANOTHER PHYSICIAN TO HANDLE THE CASE, AS THEY ALL
FEEL IT IS UNETHICAL TO INTERFERE IN ANOTHER'S DOCTORS CASE.

6. TAP OR VARIG WILL ACCEPT THE PATIENT IF HE IS RESTRAINED AND
ACCOMPANIED BY A QUALIFIED PHYSICIAN AND NURSE.

7. CHRISTOPHER HAS ALMOST NO FUNDS AND CANNOT AFFORD TO REMAIN IN
THE PRIVATE CLINIC. HIS EMPLOYER WILL NOT CONTINUE TO PAY FOR
HIS UPKEEP BEYOND DEC 23 AND WILL NOT PAY FOR HIS REPATRIATION. WE
HAVE CONTACTED THE CITY'S PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL TO ARRANGE FOR
HIS ADMISSION BUT HAVE BEEN TURNED DOWN BY THE DIRECTOR, WHO
SAYS THERE ARE BEDS FOR ONLY 150 PATIENTS AND OVER 500 ARE
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THERE NOW, MOST SLEEPING ON FLOORS AND IN HALLWAYS. THEY ARE NOT
ABLE TO PROVIDE ANYTHING EXPECT MINIMUM CUSTODIAL CARE AND WOULD
NOT BE ABLE TO TREAT HIS ILLNESS.

8. REQUEST ALLOTMENT OF $15,000 BY DEPARTMENT TO COVER IMMEDIATE
AIR EVACUATION TO NEAREST US CITY, EITHER NEW YORK OR MIAMI.
THIS COVERS FLIGHT BY VARIG AND HIGH FEE. TAP IS FULL THIS TIME
OF YEAR BUT WE WILL ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE BOOKING ON THEM FIRST,

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WITH VARIG AS FALLBACK. ALSO PLEASE ADVISE THE COST AND POSSIBILITY
OF SENDING A DOCTOR AND A NURSE FROM THE US TO ACCOMPANY MOHLMANN
TO THE U.S. THIS WILL GIVE US SOME LEVERAGE IN NEGOTIATING
WITHE THE LOCAL DOCTOR FOR A REDUCTION IN HIS FEE.
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